

Herald Times Reporter

MANITOWOC COUNTY, WIS.

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50 cents

THURSDAY
March 15, 2007



weekend
See Manitowoc County Weekend, INSIDE



Snowmelt causes flooding waterways, A2



FDA warns sleeping pills can sometimes cause 'sleep-driving' A3



Go Jets!



Sam Dudek points to his brother, senior and starting center Stephen Dudek, as he steps off the bus outside of St. Francis on Sales Elementary School on Wednesday. Sam Dudek and Justin Achter, both 11th-graders, joined other students to cheer on the Roncalli High School boys' basketball team as they travel to the WIAA Division 3 state semifinal game in Madison. The Jets, ranked second in the state, were set to battle top-seeded La Crosse Aquinas at 9:05 a.m. today at the Kohl Center. For more Roncalli coverage, please go online at www.htnews.com. Also look for additional game coverage in Friday's Herald Times Reporter.



Prep legend looks back on up, downs



Former standout Mickey Crowe marches on



From Iraq war zone to maternity ward



Baby comes early, dad arrives late



Attorneys square off with closing arguments

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Short arguments expected today

BY ANDY NELESEN
Gannett Wisconsin Newspapers

CHILTON — Jurors hearing the evidence against Steven Avery case heard the long form of closing arguments Wednesday.

In an odd twist of scheduling, they'll hear a short form today, Manitowoc County Circuit Judge Patrick Wilks curtailed closing arguments Wednesday after the lawyers' arguments advanced late into the day.

Attorney Dean Strang is expected to open today with a short closing argument for the defense and then special prosecutor Ken Kratz will get time for his usual rebuttal. The jurors are then expected to begin their deliberations.

Kratz and defense counsel Jerome Buting each talked to

Live video of Avery verdict

When the jury returns a verdict in the Steven Avery trial, watch live video from the courtroom on our Web site: www.htnews.com

played over the four weeks of testimony.

"We're here because Steven Avery pleaded not guilty," Kratz said, telling the jurors the length of the case was not because there were questions about who killed Hubbs, but rather because of the scope of the investigation.

"All the evidence points to one person," Kratz said. "I am going to argue at the conclusion of this case who that one person is. I bet you can guess who I am going to suggest is responsible."

Ken Kratz, Calumet County district attorney, gives his closing argument Wednesday.

From Iraq war zone to maternity ward

Baby comes early, dad arrives late

BY HELEN CLARKE
Herald Times Reporter

MANITOWOC — Amanda Mikael was on her way to work Friday morning when she began experiencing chest pain.

The pregnant Manitowoc resident — whose due date was only two weeks away — instead went to the emergency room and called her husband to let him know.

Pfc. Brian Mikael was in Iraq when he got the call.

"I went straight to my command and told him I was going home," Brian Mikael said.

Within 22 hours, the National Guard was en route to the United States — and already a few days later, his wife, Rose Mikael, was born at 9:23 p.m. Friday. She weighed 3 pounds, 14 ounces.

"I just went in with chest pain," Amanda Mikael said. "I had no clue I was going to have a baby that day."

Doctors made the decision to induce labor when a blood test confirmed she had developed HELLP syndrome — an illness unique to pregnancy that elevates blood pressure, increases swelling and affects the liver.

If she wouldn't have been having difficulties, there would've been no way I could've come home early," her husband said.

But the variant of preeclampsia had the potential for seizure, poor oxygen flow to the baby, separation of the placenta from the uterus and even death, said Scott Vokali, the Aurora Medical Center doctor who delivered Alyana.

That certainly seemed to warrant an early trip



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Amanda and Brian Mikael sit with their newborn daughter, Alyana, in their Manitowoc home. Brian was rushed back from duty in Iraq when his wife went into labor earlier than expected. Alyana was born Friday night and Brian arrived home Sunday.

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Prep legend looks back on up, downs

Former standout Mickey Crowe marches on

BY BRETT CHRISTOPHERSON
Gannett Wisconsin Newspapers

EAU CLAIRE — The same hands that lunched an assault of shots more than three decades earlier are tapping the tops of his thighs.

You are reminded the Mickey Crowe of 2007 is much different than the Mickey Crowe of 1975, when a 6-foot-6 prep player with long hair and floppy socks was putting the finishing touches on a legendary Wisconsin high school basketball career.

"I don't want to go through the hassle of learning an instrument," Crowe said, putting his legs as if they were a set of snare drums.

"But I use my hands and my voice to make notes and musical creations. I do that about two hours a day."

It's a far different kind of performance from those of his heyday, when Crowe was the show, a music-se talent who started at now-defunct JFK Prep in St. Nazianz, a small Manitowoc County village.

These unique jam sessions mean so much more than those 30-seconds he used to drain en route to becoming the state's career scoring leader. It's a way for a battered soul to keep marching on, a kind of therapy.

Drugs, alcohol and mental illness may have destroyed a dream for Crowe. They haven't destroyed him.



More than 30 years ago, Mickey Crowe was a nationally known prep basketball star at now-defunct JFK Prep in St. Nazianz, a small Manitowoc County village. He was the closest thing Wisconsin has had to "Pistol Pete" Maravich, the star Crowe emulated. His state all-time scoring record lasted until 1993. On the verge of the state boys basketball tournament, Crowe looks back at a career that could have been so much more if not for bouts with drugs and mental illness. But through it all, the man whose life took so many bizarre turns — including witnessing John Hinckley's assassination attempt on President Ronald Reagan in 1981 — is finally at peace.

"I think he's content with life," his hair remains long, but his beard is growing.

His once-skinny frame, which held 180 pounds during a famed prep career from 1971 to 1975, carries almost 200 pounds.

Learning lessons

There has been a lot to accept for Crowe, who says he'll turn 50 on April 3.

See CROWE, A7

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HERALD TIMES REPORTER

www.hrtnews.com

Thursday, March 15, 2007-A3

OBITUARIES

The obituaries and funeral announcements published on these pages have been prepared by friends and family as a tribute to the deceased and as a notice to those who would like to pay their respects. To submit announcements, to discuss fees or to request corrections, please contact your funeral director or call the Herald Times Reporter Classified Department at 920-682-2118 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. In addition to publication in the Herald Times Reporter, obituaries can be found on our Web site: www.hrtnews.com.

Harold J. Zahorki

Funeral services for Harold J. Zahorki, age 85, a resident of Kindred Hearts Assisted Living, Manitowoc, who died Sunday evening, March 11, 2007, at Kindred Hearts, will be held at 9:30 a.m. Friday, March 16, 2007, at the Pfeiffer Funeral Home and at 11 a.m. at St. Francis of Assisi on Woods, Manitowoc. Officiant at the Mass of Christian Burial will be the Rev. Monsignor James Van den Hogen, with entombment to follow at Calvary Mausoleum, Manitowoc. The family will greet relatives and friends at the Pfeiffer Funeral Home, Manitowoc, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday (TODAY), March 15, 2007, where a prayer service will be held at 7:30 p.m. led by Deacon Bob Boehm.

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June Mueller

June Mueller, age 82, of 2021 S. Alverno Road, Manitowoc, died Wednesday, March 14, 2007, at the Manitowoc Health Care Center. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 17, 2007, at the Manitowoc Health Care Center. The Rev. Marcus Sobberg will officiate. Burial will take place at Evergreen Cemetery. Relatives and friends may call on Saturday at the Health Care Center from 1:30 p.m. until the time of service at 2 p.m. The Rembold & Pfeiffer Funeral Home of Manitowoc is assisting the Mueller family.

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Cindy A. Miller

Cindy A. Miller, age 53, of 1125 N. Ninth St., Manitowoc, died Wednesday afternoon, March 14, 2007, at Aurora Medical Center of Manitowoc County. Complete funeral arrangements will be announced Friday by the Reinbold & Pfeiffer Family Funeral Home of Manitowoc.

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Library system receives federal grant of \$16,670

Manitowoc - The Manitowoc-Calumet Library System received \$16,670 in federal Library Service and Technology Grant grants, according to press release from the state Department of Public Instruction. The funds are part of \$31 million in grants to Wisconsin libraries announced recently by Elizabeth Burnmaster, state superintendent of public instruction. Grants to support technology improvements represented the largest allocation of funds, according to the press release. Wisconsin ranks No. 1 nationally in per capita public library interlibrary loans, and grant monies were awarded to support the development of systems that make sharing materials convenient and efficient. Projects this year also encourage public library involvement in adult and family literacy efforts and encourage digitization of library materials of unique or special interest, such as local history, post cards and photographs. Of the \$16,670 received by the Manitowoc-Calumet Library System, the Manitowoc Public Library received \$4,970 to be used for oral history digitization; Kiel Public Library received \$3,000 for support of public instruction; Manitowoc-Calumet Library System received \$5,000 for IT services; and the Manitowoc Public Library received \$3,700 for the Department of Public Instruction Division for Literacy, Technology and Community Learning administrators. Wisconsin's annual LSTA allocation from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Children escape from apartment fire

Manitowoc - Four children safely vacated an apartment fire Wednesday afternoon, but there was smoke damage to the rest of the apartment. Fire investigators were talking to the children through a Chance simulator to determine what caused the fire. Raubold said. The children's mother later arrived at the scene. Raubold said. The fire occurred at the Southside Townhouses, located at 2512 S. 21st St., and was called in at 5 p.m., authorities said. Authorities said the fire started on a stove, spread to kitchen cabinets above the stove and to a water heater. Firefighters extinguished the fire and opened up walls in search of a fire extension. Fire damage was confined to the kitchen, but there was smoke damage to the rest of the apartment. Fire investigators were talking to the children through a Chance simulator to determine what caused the fire. Raubold said. The children's mother later arrived at the scene. Raubold said. The fire occurred at the Southside Townhouses, located at 2512 S. 21st St., and was called in at 5 p.m., authorities said. Authorities said the fire started on a stove, spread to kitchen cabinets above the stove and to a water heater. Firefighters extinguished the fire and opened up walls in search of a fire extension. Fire damage was confined to the kitchen, but there was smoke damage to the rest of the apartment. Fire investigators were talking to the children through a Chance simulator to determine what caused the fire. Raubold said. The children's mother later arrived at the scene. Raubold said.

TRIAL

Securing evidence
Kratz outlined the measures taken to secure Halbach's Rav4 once it was discovered and called to light the handful of witnesses who used the sport utility vehicle was unaccounted for in the investigation. Halbach was shot on Halloween 2005 and buried in the cover of a murder. Avery is charged with first-degree intentional homicide, mutilation of a corpse and being a felon in possession of a firearm. If convicted, he faces life in prison. "That's somebody who should be great credibility and great respect," Kratz said.

Putting together the pieces
Twenty-three days ago, Kratz told jurors in his opening statement that he was showing them the cover of a jigsaw puzzle box. His closing arguments, he said Wednesday, are to help the puzzle pieces together. "Cases are decided on the facts, at least from the state's perspective," Kratz said. "We don't ask you to perform guesswork when deciding what happens."

Law enforcement officers
Kratz said that law enforcement officers understand that when you have limited resources, you better direct your resources where you think the thing is likely going. "Wandering from behind try to message if you will the podium and using a wireless microphone could be a bit of a problem," Kratz said.

Witnesses
Kratz said that witnesses are not to be confused by the fact that the witness's photograph was not on the screen but that it was in the case. "I think how close he got to getting away with it," Kratz said. "We might find this case, we might not be standing here today."

Bloodstains, bullets
Kratz said that the blood found inside Halbach's SUV - which Avery's lawyers have alleged were planted - was not a discovery. Kratz said he was excited to hear how Avery's lawyers were going to explain how the blood lived or ever got into the SUV. Kratz told the jury, "Look around. Everyone changed everyone's lives in years included."

Manitowoc summer school booklets available Friday

Manitowoc - Summer school course booklets will be distributed to Manitowoc Public School District students on Friday, July 2. Most of the booklets will be held at Franklin, Jackson, Jefferson, Washington, Wilson, or Lincoln. The fee range from \$5 to \$20 per booklet. Registration fees are non-refundable unless a course is cancelled due to insufficient enrollment in a class which registration begins Thursday, March 29. Summer school courses are open to all public, private, and homeschooled students who reside in the Manitowoc Public School District.

Student wins story contest

Manitowoc - Monroe Elementary School student Madeline Sheedow was awarded top honors in the Milwaukee Public Television Reading Rainbow Writers and Illustrators Contest this week. The third-grader won first place in her grade level for her story, "The Magic Door." As a winner, Sheedow will be honored Thursday, May 24, at the MPTV station, and will receive prizes including books, DVDs, gift certificates and a family note to the Betty Brinn Children's Museum. Her story also will air on MPTV for one year on both MPTV10 and MPTV16. Teacher Kim Gaeser sent stories written by Sheedow and her classmates to the contest. They had to be between 100 and 350 words and include five illustrations, and were judged on originality, creative expression, story telling, and integration of copy and illustration. Sheedow is one of 29 winners. Her first-place spot also has made her eligible for the national competition. Registration fees are non-refundable unless a course is cancelled due to insufficient enrollment in a class which registration begins Thursday, March 29. Sign-up will take place March 29 through April 6 via a lottery-style daily process on the date received.

Trash to Treasure event planned

Two Rivers - The Two Rivers Senior Center is hosting a Trash to Treasure Sale and Chili Lunch today, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event will be held at the Senior Center Community House, 1520 17th St., Two Rivers, according to Bonnie Wilkes, special events coordinator for the city of Two Rivers. For more information, call 795-5590.

Health event open to public

Two Rivers - Health-e Manitowoc County 2007, in partnership with the Two Rivers Parks and Recreation Department, will present a program called Health Steps from 6 to 8 p.m. Monday, March 19, at the recreation department.

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When you love a loved one, taking care of them is your first priority.
Our priority is you.

Mark Jank
Funeral Director

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Funeral Director